

HOME NEWS

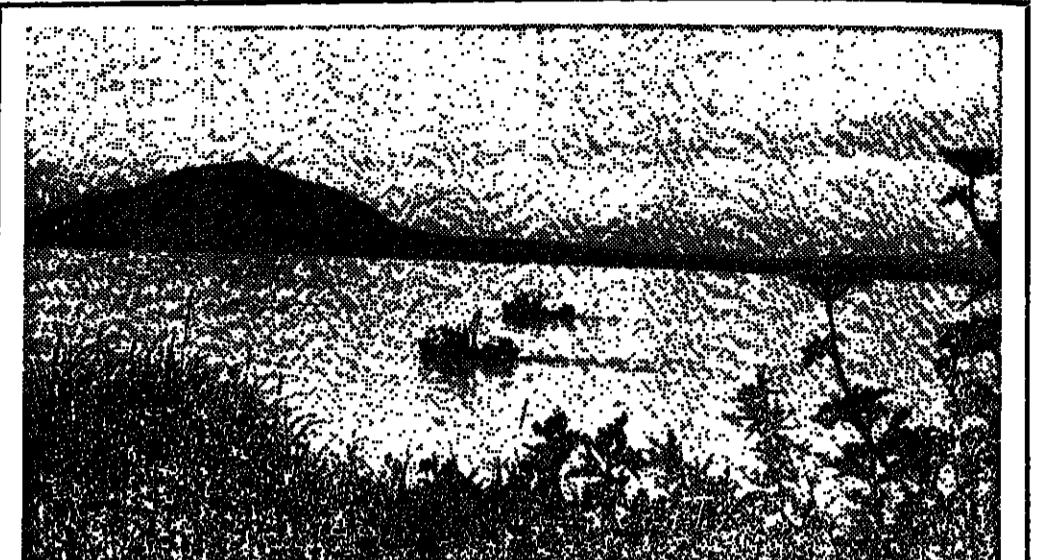
Round the Soviet Union

THE PARKS OF THE PETROVSK (PETRODVORETS) MUSEUM-RESERVE WERE RECENTLY OPENED IN A FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE. All its 147 fountains, water jets and three cascades were put into operation. More than 100,000 Leningraders and foreign tourists attended the festivities.

MONUMENTS OF THE HISTORY OF HUMAN SOCIETY, NOW ON DISPLAY AT THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF AZERBAIJAN (A REPUBLIC IN THE TRANSCAUCASIA), RANGE FROM THE PALEOLITHIC AGE TO THE LATE MEDIEVAL PERIOD. It is opened in the Baku Fortress — the historical centre of the city. Its first visitors were the participants in the all-Union conference, "The Achievements of Soviet Archaeology in the 11th Five-Year Plan Period", being held in Baku.

A NEW FOREST CALLED "MOLODOZHNY" HAS BEEN PLANTED ON THE YEKHEGNADZOR FOREST FARM IN THE CAUCASIAN REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA. It is near the well-known monument of medieval architecture — the Glazitor University, the 700th anniversary of which was recently celebrated on UNESCO's decision.

THE POSSIBILITY OF PRE-DICTING DIALOGICAL PROCESSES IN THE LITHOSPHERE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF MAN'S ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND PREVENTING UNDESIRABLE DEVELOPMENTS IN IT HAS BEEN OPENED UP BY A NEW INTERNATIONAL PROJECT — GEOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT — NOW BEING IMPLEMENTED BY UNESCO WITH THE SOVIET UNION'S ACTIVE PARTICIPATION. The programme for the implementation of the project was discussed by delegates who attended the first session of the international scientific council held in Yalta (on the Black Sea coast of the Crimea). The meeting was held at the scientific centre of the "Crimea" geosystem, set up in keeping with the project to train specialists in the protection of the lithosphere.



Morning on Kunashir Island.

NEW PRESERVE ON THE KURILES

On the Island of Kunashir (the Kurile archipelago) a sixty-five-hectare tract has been turned into a new preserve, "Kurilsky". The preserve

has divided the island into three parts — a zone for economic activities, in the centre of the island and two preserves, one in the north and the other in the south.

There are different types of birds on Kunashir Island. Among them are Japanese cranes, white storks, eagles, and white-backed albatross.

Some birds build their nests on the islands, while others only fly there during their migration. Scientists at the new preserve study the biology of some species of birds so as to preserve them on the island. At present many of them have been entered into the USSR Red Data Book.

The mammals here are foxes and bears. Favourable conditions exist for sables which were on the brink of extinction at the start of the century.

European mink is a new resident on the island. In 1972, scientists from the USSR Academy of Sciences voiced the alarm: the European mink was disappearing from its natural habitat. The reason for the sharp drop in the population of this furry animal was the biological incompatibility between the European and American mink. The mink native to European forests was practically doomed.

Then arose the question of settling the endangered species, so that it won't come in contact with the American mink. The most favourable conditions were found on the island of Kunashir. In 1982, the first consignment of the mink was brought here. The new residents find life on Kunashir congenial: they were brought here just in time. Scientists believe that in another five to six years this species may disappear and the Kunashir will be the only habitat for the European mink, which can now quite rightly be described as Russian.

The preserve also has quite a few plants peculiar only to the island.

At present, this country has more than one hundred and fifty preserves set up in all the climatic zones. Every year the total territory of the preserves increases. By the end of this year, it will reach 12.5 million hectares.

The Tyatya Volcano on the Kunashir.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

GAS FROM URENGOI

Today, this country's largest gas field is at Urengoi, Western Siberia, writes the newspaper TRUD. Its huge reserves are larger than the stocks of such developed gas-producing nations as Mexico, Algeria, Canada, Holland and Britain taken together. Economists estimate that the amount of gas produced by this Siberian gas田 is enough to annually provide fuel, raw materials and electricity, as well as to heat ovens in domestic kitchens in a major industrial region with a population of 40 million.

The Urengoi gas field is the starting point for a six-month transcontinental complex with a total length of more than 90,000 kilometers. This pipeline, the longest in the world, was built in the shortest time possible. Twenty thousand kilometers is half the length of the continent. This gas transport complex can carry nearly 200,000 million cubic metres of gas a year. The construction of the Siberian pipeline went on at rates two to three times higher than is envisaged by industrial standards. The commissioning of the system ahead of schedule has allowed the Soviet economy to have more than 14,000 million cubic metres of gas a year additionally. This quantity of gas is as much as was produced by this country in half a year some twenty-five years ago.

The biggest of these pipelines is the superline between Urengoi, Pomary and Uzghord on the Soviet-Western border. This line, which has already been commissioned, pumps 82,000 million cubic metres of gas a year. The gas is used not only in Soviet industries but also goes to the socialist countries and the West-Austria, France, Italy, West Germany, and other states.

OVERALL BUILDING PLAN

The first overall building plan for the capital of Armenia (a constituent republic in Transcaucasia) was drawn by a prominent architect A. Tamanyan and approved in 1934. At that time the city had a population of 150 thousand. Today Yerevan has one million inhabitants. Its development rate gave rise to complex economic and social problems. To tackle these problems new beautiful buildings, residential districts, metro and the Zvartnots Airport were built.

By now the second 1971 overall plan has also grown out of date. In the next two years, writes SOVIETSKAYA KULTURA, the republic's government is to work out a new overall plan in which the best architects and designing organizations of this country will be involved. Possibly the all-Union contest to draw the overall plan for the capital of Armenia will be announced. This implies joint creative efforts by architects, artists, engineers and builders to work out original projects and architectural ensembles as World Cup final.

WATER RESOURCES CONTROLLED FROM OUTER SPACE

Water management and rational distribution of water resources are becoming urgent national issues. The national economic plans, envisage the creation of automated management of water economy complexes in the basins of major rivers in the European part of the country and Central Asia. Aerospace technology is indispensable in this industry. Aircraft and satellites equipped with various optical hydrographic survey devices of high precision collect data on soil humidity, subsurface water, rainfall, secondary salinization, the conditions of hydro-

land-reclamation installations, and the impact of water and cultural vegetation. All these are dependent on national water resources, the condition of rivers, lakes, glaciators, the level of atmospheric pressure, and the direction of shallow and underground flows.

The analysis and summary of this vast and diverse information will make it possible in the near future to more efficiently manage the distribution of irrigation, drinking and industrial waters, and to build a modern hydro-power network.

BEING ONE'S SELF AS A POET

Genuine poetry enables people to see the world as a single whole, writes Yevgeny Vinokurov, winner of the 1980 wakarol Nehru International award, reflects on a poet's personality in the SMBNA magazine. A true poet has his own vision of the world, he writes. An artist's personality is reflected in poetry based on the basis of the originality of this vision. A poet's personality is at the root of the individual vision of the world. I would compare verses to metal shavings. There must be an invisible magnet which draws them together. This invisible magnet is the poet's personality, which gives unity to all his works, and puts in order and sequence for disparate verses. Its lack denies any existence of the picture itself, leaving behind some fragments which cannot make a whole.

The artist must be himself. He should not hide or create something new at any cost; his goal should be different — to be himself, which is a perpetual task and hard work, Ye. Vinokurov, himself a poet agrees.

The artist moves not forward, horizontally, "to himself"; he is the perpetual, quite affordable and yet not self-sufficient in the history of poetry, the writer concludes.

All-purpose ship in northern conditions

An all-purpose ship, "Varandar", ordered for northern sea steamship, built at the Arkhangelsk shipyard, Kuznetsov shipyard, on its maiden cruise.

The ship, adapted for

operation in shallow water, is

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a dry-cargo ship, oiler

and a tanker.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

SOFIA ROTARU

For about 20 years singer Sofia Rotaru has remained one of the most attractive figures on Soviet variety stage. Records in large numbers with her songs are instantly sold out and it is always difficult to get a ticket to her concerts: millions of people are waiting for her performance on TV.

Sofia Rotaru sings about what is especially near and dear to people. Her beautiful and rich voice attracts various listeners. She sings with passion and temperament.

Complete self-devotion is my creed in art. The voice of a singer is only an instrument and, apart from that, one needs hard work, human and social activity. Through songs I show my attitude to the world, understand it, so songs are my world, says Sofia Rotaru.

The best creative achievements of Sofia Rotaru are connected with civil songs. For each of them she chooses the only correct expressive means. Among such songs are the pathetic "Ballad About the Mother" by Vsevolod Martynov or the musical "recco" "My Country" by David Tukmanov.

What is your creative laboratory, concealed from listeners? I asked the singer.

This is a very complicated process. There are endless retouches. Sometimes it seems that everything has been done but there is no contact with the audience... What is also important is the relation with the author: if a composer writes a song especially for a particular singer, taking into consideration his individuality, this creates complete mutual understanding.

Her latest recordings made by the Melodia recording company are songs from the film, "Where Are You, Love?", in which she made her debut as a film actress. Specially for this film Soviet composers Reinouds Pauls, Alexei Matiushev, Alexander Zasepin and Yuri Sautsky wrote songs which later became hits. Performed by Sofia Rotaru, they sound like little dramatic short stories and they are all different, though they have one theme in common—love.

Rotaru's mother and father were vine-growers but music always sounded in their house. In the evenings her father arranged choir practices for the children in the family. It was at that time that I understood the beauty of folk songs—Moldavian, Ukrainian and Russian, she said. I dreamed of becoming an actress when I was still singing at the school in our little village in Bulgaria. At the age of ten I became soloist of the children's choir and received the first prize in my life—an accordion.

After a few years Sofia Rotaru had her real success, received many awards, became a prize-winner at international contests, especially at the 9th World Festival of Youth and Students in Bulgaria, at which the jury awarded her a gold medal.

What distinguishes Sofia Rotaru as an actress?

First of all, the sense of time and inevitable contacts with folk music. In her work Sofia Rotaru, singing for 15 years to the accompaniment of the Chernova Ruta company, relies on the work of Bulgarian composers.

I think that the songs of Bulgarian composers provided me with an opportunity to find my style, manner and perhaps individuality as a singer. They are based on folk music, but interpreted in modern rhythms.



Marina ISTYUSHINA

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ACROSS COUNTRIES, CONTINENTS

Visitors to this show literally make a trip to nations and continents. The House of Artists is now the venue for an exhibition of works by People's Artist of the Russian Federation Pyotr Ossovsky, timed to coincide with his 60th birthday and 35 years of work.

On display are over 150 paintings and nearly one hundred drawings, many of them brought from the country's major museums and picture galleries.

Opening the exhibition is a series of pictures of places of interest in the capitals of socialist

countries like Havana, Warsaw, Prague and Sofia.

The pictures, also, take visitors to Siberia and the Trans-Baikal region, Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Mexico, and Finland.

There are many pictures with a strong civic message, like the triptych "Illuminated by the Light of Victory" and the series "Milestones in the Life of the Patriarch".

slaves in the history of this country. The artist is now working on a Pushkin theme.

The show is open at 11 Kurskaya Most St. daily from noon to 7 p.m., except Tuesdays.

Pushkin: "Moscow, my thoughts have turned to thee!"



"Gold-Hued Boxes"

FACTS AND EVENTS

A scene from "The Theatrical Novel"

Photo by Vadim Shul'.

WHAT'S ON!

June 1-3

THEATRES

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.), 1 — Rimsky-Korsakov, "The Legend of the Invisible City of Kittezh" (opera); 2 (mat) — Concert by the Bolshoi soloists; 2 (eve) — Shchedrin, "The Sea Gull" (ballet).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.), 1 — Rimsky-Korsakov, "May Night" (opera); 2 (mat) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet); 2 (eve) — Rosinskii, "The Barber of Seville" (opera); 3 — Minkus, "Don Quixote" (ballet).

Opera Theatre (6 Pushkinskaya St.), 1, 2 (eve) — Pilchikin, "Wedding With the General"; 2 (mat) — Ziv, "Monsieur Arthur"; 3 — Milyutin, "Girl in a Flurry".

Films

La Traviata (USA, in 2 parts).

A screen version of Verdi's opera of the same title.

Cinema: "Plamya" (1 Ploshchad Vostochnaya). Meir Krainovskiy.

opposite: Marina Mikhalkova and Yury Anan'yev in a play, "Forest Fairy Tale", staged by the Durov Theatre of Animals.

EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition Hall, USSR Agency Union (20 Kuznetskaya Most St.). Fine art paintings from Czechoslovakia and Azerbaijan are showing portraits of the Capital oilmen and Prague Metro builders, as well as landscapes of Baku and Prague. Daily, except Mondays, 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturdays, and Sundays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Metro Kuznetskaya St.

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